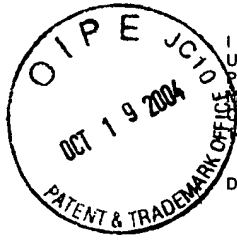


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Date: October 19, 2004

John Stancil

PATENT
870893-11 (01-B-097)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: GIOVANNI GOZZINI

Serial No.: 09/997,549

Filed: November 27, 2001

Title: IMPROVED SENSING ELEMENT
ARRANGEMENT FOR A FINGERPRINT
SENSOR

Art Unit: 2858

Examiner: Anjan K. Deb

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop: Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the Office Action dated September 20, 2004, the Examiner has required restriction of the application to one of the following groups of inventions pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 121: Group I, including Claims 1-7 drawn to capacitance sensor; Group II, including Claims 8-14 drawn to fingerprint sensor; and Group III, including Claims 15-20 drawn to fingerprint sensing device. In response, Applicant elects without traverse the claims of Group I.

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Page 2

The Examiner has also required the further restriction of the invention to one of the following species: (a) Figure 3; (b) Figure 4; (c) Figure 10; (d) Figure 11; and (e) Figure 12. In response, Applicant elects without traverse the species of Figure 10, on which Claims 1-7 are readable. Claim 1 is considered generic to at least Figures 10-12.

An examination on the merits of the elected claims (i.e., Claims 1-7) is respectfully requested. While Applicant believes that no fees are due in connection with the filing of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any shortage in the fees, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0639.

Respectfully submitted,



Brian M. Berliner
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 34,549

Date: October 19, 2004

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